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## ESPS PEER-REVIEW REPORT

**Name of journal:** World Journal of Gastroenterology

**ESPS manuscript NO:** 32562

**Title:** Consequences of metabolic syndrome on postoperative outcomes after pancreaticoduodenectomy

**Reviewer's code:** 03505493

**Reviewer's country:** Italy

**Science editor:** Ya-Juan Ma

**Date sent for review:** 2017-01-14 16:50

**Date reviewed:** 2017-01-16 01:19

| CLASSIFICATION                                    | LANGUAGE EVALUATION   | SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT                          | CONCLUSION   |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent       | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing                 | Google Search:                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Accept                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing | <input type="checkbox"/> The same title        | <input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair            | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing  | <input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism            | <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor            | <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected                            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No         | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision                |
|   |   | BPG Search:                                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision     |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> The same title        |  |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Duplicate publication |  |
|   |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Plagiarism            |  |
|   |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No         |  |

### COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I read with interest this paper. It is based on important considerations and the findings are interesting. There are some points to be addressed before considering it for publication, however.

1. The pancreatic parenchyma consistency, soft or hard, was evaluated intra-operatively by the surgeon by manual palpation of the pancreatic remnant. This is not a standardized method. please write a comment in the discussion section to acknowledge this limitation and to suggest possible solutions for the future. Indeed, the method you mentioned is too subjective to be considered scientifically correct.
2. have the Authors considered the level of uric acid in this patients? Sometimes this parameter may be altered on such patients and may influence the findings about metabolic syndrome. Please see and cite this paper by Zurlo et al.: High serum uric acid levels increase the risk of metabolic syndrome in elderly women: The PRO.V.A study. Nutr Metab Cardiovasc Dis. 2016 Jan;26(1):27-35.
3. Which is the role of pathologists in evaluating the pancreas? Fatty versus non fatty pancreas is a parameter that should be evaluated by the pathologists. Indeed, a hard pancreatic parenchyma is present not only in case of a florid acinar architecture, but also in case of desmoplastic reaction (fibrosis due to cancer)



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or in case of fibrosis for inflammation (pancreatitis,...). Please state clearly if there is a role for pathologists, in this case is this role standardized?, and please clear state that a possible strategy to ameliorate the research in this field will be in the future the involvement of pathologists in these studies.